

Please add the following new claims 23-45:

23. (new) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the protein induces an inflammatory mediator such as IL-6, IL-8 or PGE2.

24. (new) A nucleic acid sequence that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid sequence of claim 2 or fragment thereof.

25. (new) A nucleic acid isolated using a cDNA encoding a nucleic acid of claim 2 or fragment thereof as a probe.

26. (new) A nucleic acid that encodes a polypeptide that is at least 75% identical to SEQ ID No.: 2, 4, 6, 8, or 10.

27. (new) A nucleic acid that encodes a polypeptide that is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID No.: 2, 4, 6, 8, or 10.

28. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 26, wherein the coding sequence is interrupted by introns.

29. (new) A recombinant expression system for a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid expression vector wherein the nucleic acid of claim 26 is operably linked to suitable genetic control elements that are recognized in a suitable host cell.

30. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the host cell is a prokaryotic cell.

31. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the genetic control elements are comprised of a prokaryotic promoter system, prokaryotic ribosome binding site, and a prokaryotic transcription termination signal.

32. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the host cell is a eukaryotic cell.

33. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the genetic control elements are a eukaryotic promoter system, a eukaryotic ribosome binding site, and eukaryotic transcription termination and polyadenylation signals.

34. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the host cell is a yeast cell.

35. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the host cell is an insect cell.

36. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the expression vector is an insect baculovirus expression vector.

37. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the host cell is a mammalian cell.

38. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the host cell is a chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cell, a monkey (COS) cell, or a baby rat kidney (BRK) cell.

39. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the expression vector does not replicate (autonomously) in the host cell.

40. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the expression vector is transformed into a cell which provides a specific glycosylation pattern.

41. (new) The expression system of claim 29 wherein the expression vector is co-transformed into a cell with one or more genes encoding mammalian or other glycosylating enzymes.

42. (new) A method for diagnosing patients suspected of having an abnormal condition wherein a sample from a patient is contacted with a nucleic acid that encodes a polypeptide which is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID No.: 2, 4, 6, 8, or 10.

43. (new) The method of claim 42, wherein the abnormal condition is:

a.) inflammation or;

b.) a disorder involving cellular proliferation.

44. (new) The method of claim 42 wherein the nucleic acid is RNA.

45. (new) The method of claim 42 wherein the nucleic acid is DNA.

REMARKS

Support for newly added claim 23 is found expressly in original claims 5 and 6. Additionally, support for newly added claim 23 can be found on page 3 of the specification, lines 26, 27 and 30. Herein it is stated that the "protein or peptide can...induce a cell to secrete an inflammatory mediator, e.g., IL-6, IL-8, and/or PGE2".

Support for newly added claim 24 is found on page 16, lines 27-35 wherein it is stated that "a DNA which codes for a CTLA-8 protein will be particularly useful to identify genes, mRNA, and cDNA species which code for related or homologous proteins, as well as DNA which codes for homologous proteins from different species." Furthermore, it is explained that (page 16, lines 33-35 and page 17, line 1) "even proteins with a more distant relationship" "can readily be isolated using these sequences if they are sufficiently homologous". Stringent conditions for homology in the context of hybridization conditions is discussed in detail on page 18, lines 16-31. Thus, sequences isolated using stringent hybridization conditions using the sequences of claim 2, are covered by the specification.